# Revise County Code to Reflect Service Level Changes and Requirements (as needed)

Certain changes to Fairfax County Code, policies and/or procedures may be needed periodically to improve collection service. Under County Code, Chapter 109, Article 5, Fairfax County will establish requirements for residences and businesses, including the manner of collection, materials to be collected, collection frequency, collection points and procedures, collection vehicles, special collections, and rates. These requirements establish minimum service levels; some haulers in the county provide additional collection services. **Note that if the county oversees residential MSW collection, many of these regulatory and policy changes may be incorporated into the collection contracts.** 

#### **Continue Current Vacuum Leaf Collection System**

Fairfax County will continue to provide vacuum leaf collection service to residents in specially created leaf collection districts during the leaf collection period. Vacuum leaf collection is conducted seasonally for those customers who pay a special fee for the service based on the assessed value of the residence and property. Vacuum leaf collection will be addressed in the implementation phase of the SWMP to determine how this practice would be continued in the future.



### Improve Public Outreach and Education – CDD Collection

Fairfax County can improve CDD collection though improved public education and outreach. The county can help promote CDD collection best practices by providing lists of CDD collection companies that offer recycling services and guidance on how to separate CDD from MSW.

## Consider Program to Promote Best Management Practices for CDD Haulers

Fairfax County may consider increasing its oversight over the CDD collection industry to promote CDD collection best management practices or county CDD policy. By maintaining an active role in the CDD collection industry, the county can help improve the baseline service level for CDD collection. In addition, the county can assist CDD haulers in finding CDD recycling and disposal alternatives.

## Promote Use of Special Fuels, Filters, and Special Vehicles for Collection

Fairfax County already has a plan for county vehicles to use environmentally preferential fuels. Using biodiesel as an alternative fuel can significantly reduce emissions of carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons, and particulate matter. Biodiesel is also a cost effective alternative to diesel, with a similar price per gallon and requiring no modifications to collection vehicles or fueling equipment. The county may choose to make

the use of special fuels a requirement for using the county's disposal facilities.

Fairfax County may also require (for county vehicles) and promote (for private vehicles) the use of vehicle exhaust system filters to reduce air emissions from collection vehicles. Many of these filter systems are effective at removing nitrous oxides and particulates from diesel exhaust.



Fairfax County may promote the use of special collection vehicles, such as compactor trucks. The vehicles reduce trash volume, thereby increasing the number of households served per collection trip. By reducing the frequency of trips to unload, collection compactor trucks help reduce truck traffic and air pollution.

### Implement Collection and Disposal Strategy for Emergencies

Fairfax County will develop a strategy for the countywide collection and disposal of solid waste generated from emergency events, including natural and homeland security disasters. Emergency events are disasters of sufficient magnitude that the President of the United States declares an emergency, enabling assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Normal severe weather events, such as thunderstorms, are not considered emergencies. Fairfax County will proactively plan to secure emergency collection services before disasters, possibly through contracts or regional agreements.

#### **Expand Special Wastes Collection**

Fairfax County currently accepts most special wastes at the I-66 Transfer Station and the I-95 Landfill Complex recycling DOCs. For some county citizens, these facilities may not be convenient so they use alternative disposal methods. By expanding collection hours or opening additional special waste collection centers, the county could attract additional residents to use the special wastes program.

However, the expanding the special wastes program is costly. Fairfax County must weigh the benefits of removing special wastes from the MSW stream with the cost of opening new collection centers.

Fairfax County will also evaluate whether to require new restaurants to collect fat, oil, and grease wastes for special collections. These wastes can clog water and sewer systems and can be recycled. While fat, oil, and grease wastes do not meet the definition of special wastes, they are wastes of concern to the Fairfax County community.

#### **TRANSFER**

### **Continue Using Current Transfer System**



The county will continue to transfer solid waste as it does currently. the I-66 using Transfer Station. As waste generation in Fairfax County grows, solid waste transfer requirements may exceed the current capacity of the I-66 Transfer Station (roughly 3,500 tons per day). When incoming volumes begin to consistently exceed 3,500 tons per day, the

county will need to increase the number of trailer trucks hauling material for disposal. When inbound waste volumes exceed 4,500 tons per day, the facility will need to increase both the number of bays at the Transfer Station and county trailer trucks hauling waste for disposal.

## Reconfigure or Construct Waste Handling Areas at the I-66 Transfer Station

Fairfax County may consider reconfiguring or constructing new waste handling areas at the I-66 Transfer Station. These waste handling areas include unloading areas for citizens and commercial cash customers (for increased safety and efficiency), a recycling center for CDD, and areas to handle increased CDD and/or yard waste, which are discussed below.

#### **Unloading Areas for Citizens and Commercial Cash Customers**



The county may construct unloading bays specifically for citizens and small commercial loads at the I-66 Transfer Station. By constructing separate unloading areas, the county can reduce the safety issues associated with citizens entering the same bays where

larger trash trucks are being off loaded.

#### Construct Areas to Handle Increased CDD and/or Yard Waste

As the capacity of CDD landfills dwindles, Fairfax County can improve the state of CDD disposal capacity by managing a greater percentage of the CDD at the I-66 Transfer Station. The county could construct additional CDD bays and increase the number of trucks used to transfer the material for disposal. Additional recycling of useful CDD could be accomplished at the same time materials are being screened and loaded for transport.

Yard waste quantities in the county are projected to increase over the SWMP planning period. When inbound yard waste quantities exceed the current transfer station processing capacity, the county may need to increase the size of yard waste processing areas.

### **Recycling Center for CDD**

(See "Promote CDD Recycling at a County Location" under "Recycling" in this Chapter.)

## Add Transfer Capabilities to the I-95 Landfill Complex (if needed)

As waste quantities increase, the county may consider building or supporting construction of a transfer station at the I-95 Landfill Complex or other county location. Locating a transfer facility near the E/RRF will provide another method for the county to control the MSW volume to be processed at the E/RRF. If



the quantity of MSW entering the county system is insufficient to maintain the E/RRF operations, the county can contract with other municipalities or private firms for the additional quantity required. If MSW quantities received at the proposed transfer facility are greater than the E/RRF capacity, the county can transport the "overflow" waste to sanitary landfills outside of the county.

#### Improve Public Outreach and Education –Transfer

Fairfax County can improve transfer operations though improved public education and outreach. Public education and outreach will be targeted towards promoting the SWMP transfer actions. For example, the county can focus public outreach and education to promote the use of new unloading areas by citizens and commercial cash customers, CDD transfer facilities by private haulers, and a new transfer station at the I-95 Landfill Complex (if needed).